CLAIMS:

1. A method of positioning a component in a device by means of an actuator, which actuator is provided with two parts which extend in a main plane and are interconnected by means of three bridges, which three bridges can each be shortened in a shortening direction which extends parallel to the main plane in that the bridge is locally heated and subsequently cooled down, in which method the two parts of the actuator are rotated relative to one another about an axis of rotation extending substantially perpendicularly to the main plane through shortening of at least one of said three bridges, characterized in that the shortening directions of the three bridges are mutually substantially parallel, and the two parts of the actuator are rotated relative to one another by an alternate shortening of two mutually adjoining bridges of the three bridges.

2. A method as claimed in claim 1, characterized in that the two parts of the actuator are rotated relative to one another in a first direction by an alternate shortening of a first and an adjacent second bridge of the three bridges, and in that the two parts of the actuator are rotated relative to one another in a second direction opposed to the first direction by an alternate shortening of the second and the adjacent third bridge.

3. An actuator suitable for use in a method as claimed in claim 1 or 2, which actuator is provided with two parts which extend in a main plane and are interconnected by means of three bridges, which three bridges can each be shortened in a shortening direction extending parallel to the main plane through local heating of the bridge and subsequent cooling down, while the two parts are rotatable relative to one another about an axis of rotation extending substantially perpendicularly to the main plane through shortening of at least one of said three bridges, characterized in that the shortening directions of the three bridges are mutually substantially parallel, and the two parts can be rotated relative to one by an alternate shortening of two mutually adjoining bridges of the three bridges.

4. An actuator as claimed in claim 3, characterized in that the bridges have a width, seen perpendicularly to the shortening direction, which is substantially smaller than twice a spot diameter of a laser beam used or designed to be used for shortening the bridges.

5. An actuator as claimed in claim 4, characterized in that the width of the bridges is at most equal to the spot diameter.

6. An actuator as claimed in claim 3, characterized in that a distance present between the bridges and the width of the bridges have a same order of magnitude.

7. An actuator as claimed in claim 3, characterized in that a distance present between the bridges is substantially greater than the width of the bridges.

8. An actuator as claimed in claim 3, characterized in that the actuator is provided with a coupling member which is fastened to one of the two parts of the actuator at a distance from the bridges as seen parallel to the shortening direction and in a fixed position as seen in a displacement direction directed substantially perpendicularly to the shortening direction, which coupling member is uncoupled from the corresponding part when seen in the rotation direction of the actuator.

9. An actuator as claimed in claim 8, characterized in that the coupling member comprises a blade spring which extends substantially parallel to the displacement direction and substantially perpendicularly to the main plane.

10. An actuator as claimed in claim 9, characterized in that the two parts of the actuator, the three bridges, and the blade spring are manufactured from a single piece of sheeting, the blade spring being bent from the main plane into a position substantially perpendicular to the main plane.